

staple commodity of one of the midland counties—vis. salt. The saliferous district of Cheshire, Nantwich, Droithwich, &c., produces more of this necessary article than any other salt mines, we believe, in the world, and it has hitherto been principally exported from Liverpool, continental vessels coming in ballast for the purpose. By the now full development of the railways through the midland and northern counties, arrangements are being made to transmit the salt by canal to Manchester, and thence by the Manchester and Leeds, Leeds and Selby, and Selby and Hull Railways, to the latter place for shipment, thus not only shortening the time to the Baltic about one-half, but the great probability is, that vessels which now come in ballast, owing to the length of the voyage round the Channel, will, in future, bring cargoes of grain, and thus cause an interchange of two great necessary commodities. One large wholesale house at Liverpool has already an establishment at Hull, and 300 waggons are building expressly for the purpose. It is also probable that Welsh slates, and other articles of commerce, will find their way across the island for shipment from our eastern ports.

### Correspondence.

#### GREAT MALVERN ABBEY.

SIR,—Will you permit me to correct a slight misconception in your last Number? In your report of the meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, of March 21, it is stated that drawings of the ancient Refectory, at Great Malvern, were presented by Edward Blore, Esq.; that the structure had been demolished in 1841, and it was believed that no other representations of this building, but those of Mr. Blore, had been preserved; such, however, is not the case. In the summer of 1836 I visited this neighbourhood with my friend Edward Blackburne, Esq., architect, author of a "History of Crosby Hall," a work on Pointed English Architecture, and restorer of a portion of Crosby Hall, &c. We examined this very interesting building, and took sketches and measurements of it. It was certainly a very singular and interesting example of English carpentry; the framing of the roofs and elegant wooden tracery of the windows were very remarkable. Mr. Rickman, in his work on the Architecture of England, thus speaks of this erection as the Barn of Malvern:—"Near it (Malvern Abbey) is the Abbey-Barn, a very interesting piece of wood-work, evidently of Decorated character, with some very good moulded-work in oak for windows, and tracery-piercings of a bold style in the principals of the roof."

I am more inclined to coincide with Mr. Rickman in his opinion, that it was used for that purpose, than as a refectory, as supposed by my namesake.

Begging you will excuse this intrusion on your notice,

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
8, Michael's-place, JOHN BLOXHAM.  
Brompton-square, April 9th, 1844.

[We should like to publish the decorative carpentry of this building.—ED.]

SIR,—I most respectfully beg leave, through means of your publication, of making more generally known the following acts of well-timed generosity to the labouring poor, now very rarely to be met with.

At the New Conservative Club-House, now in progress of erection in St. James's-street, a bricklayer's labourer of the name of McCarty, in the month of October last, fell from one of the scaffolds and was killed on the spot; upon the members of the club being made acquainted with the circumstances of the case, and that he was the only support of a widowed mother, they immediately subscribed a fund, and granted her a pension of eight shillings a week during her life-time. In the early part of January of the present year, another labourer fell backwards from a ladder, and was very seriously hurt by falling upon some iron girders that were at the foot of the ladder; he was thereby disabled for twelve weeks, during which time he was paid by the club eighteen shillings per week, being his full wages, till again enabled to resume his work. Last week, a labourer, while assisting to erect a scaffold to the ceiling of the grand staircase, fell from

a height of thirty feet upon the stones below, and received a severe internal injury; he, also, is the recipient of their bounty to the amount of his weekly earnings. I leave you and your numerous readers to form your own opinion upon the above; at the same time I think you will agree with me when I say that such well-timed generosity has now rarely to be recorded.

I am, Sir, your constant reader,  
W. BOWACK, Foreman of the Works.

April 9th, 1844.

SIR,—As the acquisition of useful knowledge is at all times both highly desirable and pleasant to all those who are anxious to obtain a more perfect knowledge of the different trades, which they, in the order of Providence, may be called to fulfil, and, however, simple may be the knowledge communicated, yet it is received by such with pleasure and delight, as it puts them in a position to become more useful members of society, and renders them capable of performing higher uses to their fellow men. With this desire I would, through the medium of your excellent paper, make the following inquiry:—

What is the difference between that system of lines as practised by those of "the old school,"

SMITH'S PATENT WEATHER-TIGHT FASTENINGS AND BILL-BARS FOR FRENCH-CASEMENTS; IMPROVED REVOLVING IRON SHUTTERS; &c.

THE diagrams annexed, numbered from 1 to 5, represent an efficient means of excluding the weather from casements, being simple in construction, and easy of application.

Fig. 1 represents, to a scale of one-half the

in getting out the wrenched part of a hand-rail and that system which is coming into more general practice, and known by the name of the "square cut." And whether the work published by Mr. Weale, of Holborn, is an elucidation of the said "square cut?" If you, or any one of your able correspondents, would favour me with a solution of the above questions, you would greatly oblige,

Your obedient servant, J. P.

#### BLOXHAM'S GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE.

SIR,—I am exceedingly gratified at seeing that Mr. Bloxham has published another edition of his work on Gothic Architecture, but at the same time I think that if Mr. B. had published a supplement containing the additional information in a separate volume, it would have been a method better than the one followed, since those who possess the old edition must either go without the additional information or buy the new edition. I trust he will remedy the defect by publishing a supplement, for I am sure it will meet with a very extensive sale. Hoping you will be good enough to insert this in your valuable publication,

I am, Sir,

A POSSESSOR OF THE OLD EDITION.

Saturday, April 13th, 1844.

full size, a short length of the meeting-styles, with a fastening thereto applied, and exhibits the appearance when the casements are closed; the brass face-plates and lever with ornamental knobs only being seen.

Fig. 2 is a section of meeting-styles taken above the lock, which is shewn as being mortised into a right-hand style, and through which passes the lever-spindle, communicating a threefold motion to the bolt, the case of which is let into a groove ploughed out of the rebate,

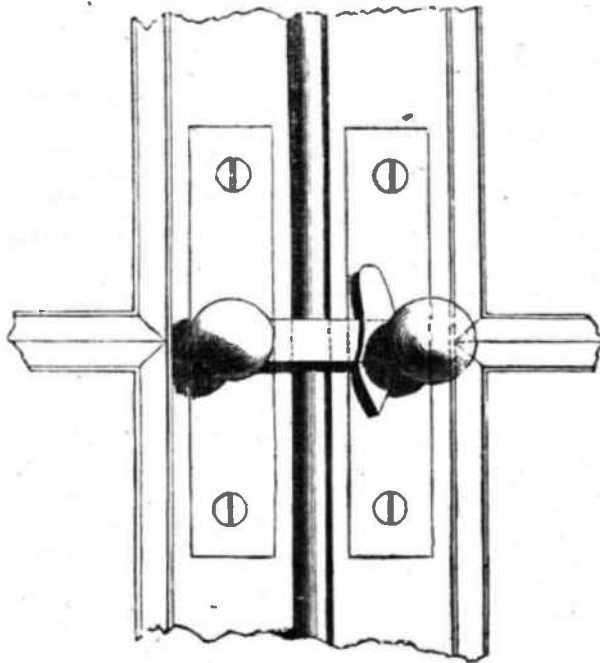


Fig. 1.

along the whole height of the stile, and is bolted, by simply turning the lever-handle into the position shewn by the figure, is projected

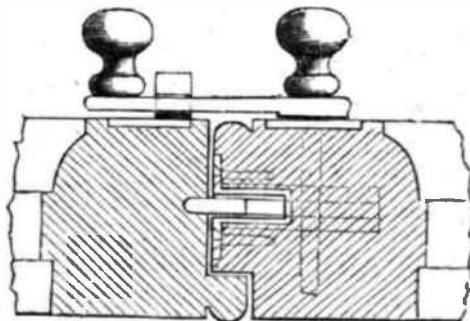


Fig. 2.

up, down, and forward at the same time, thus ploughing and tonguing the styles together their whole height, and securely bolting the casements at top and bottom.